

RE: Statement on RCMP request

From: "Jones, Mike" <mike.jones@ps-sp.gc.ca>
To: "Cohen, Alexander" <alexander.cohen@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Mendicino, Marco - Personal" <[irrelevant]@parl.gc.ca>
Cc: "Kurusamy, Gowthaman" <gowthaman.kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Savard-Shaw, Julie" <julie.savard-shaw@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Murdock, Kelly" <kelly.murdock@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Habert, Andie" <andie.habert@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Date: Fri, 04 Feb 2022 00:10:15 +0000

I don't want to overthink here, but my hesitancy is that:

- 1) information flow hasn't been great and if we start sharing what she's asked us not to I worry it'll dry up entirely, and
- 2) this is all of our first crowd control situation, and we know it is going to escalate. If there's a reaction I'd rather not have the commissioner be able to say we ignored her advice.

From: Cohen, Alexander <Alexander.Cohen@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 7:03 PM
To: Mendicino, Marco - Personal <[irrelevant]@parl.gc.ca>; Jones, Mike <Mike.Jones@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Cc: Kurusamy, Gowthaman <Gowthaman.Kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Savard-Shaw, Julie <Julie.Savard-Shaw@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Murdock, Kelly <Kelly.Murdock@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Habert, Andie <Andie.Habert@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Statement on RCMP request

Small tweaks following a chat with the Minister:

Peaceful protests don't make people afraid to leave their homes. The blockades in downtown Ottawa have caused major disruption and danger to local families and businesses - to say nothing of the vandalism, harassment of residents, expressions of hate and incitement to violence. It is time for demonstrators to go home, and for Ottawans to get their city back. Federal officials across government, including the RCMP, have been working closely with their municipal counterparts to manage the situation over the past week.

This afternoon, I had a productive conversation with Mayor Jim Watson. The City of Ottawa has submitted a request to the federal government for more support from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. I can now confirm that additional resources – including more officers – are ready to assist the Ottawa Police Service, who continue to be the police of jurisdiction. Ottawans deserve to feel safe in their community, and we'll continue to work closely with the City of Ottawa to be there for them.

From: Mendicino, Marco - Personal <[irrelevant]@parl.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 7:01 PM
To: Cohen, Alexander <Alexander.Cohen@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Jones, Mike <Mike.Jones@ps-sp.gc.ca>

Cc: Kurusamy, Gowthaman <Gowthaman.Kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Savard-Shaw, Julie <Julie.Savard-Shaw@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Murdock, Kelly <Kelly.Murdock@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Habert, Andie <Andie.Habert@ps-sp.gc.ca>

Subject: Re: Statement on RCMP request

Agree we should say police officers but not #

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From: Mendicino, Marco - Personal <Irrelevant@parl.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 7:00 PM
To: Cohen, Alexander; Jones, Mike
Cc: Kurusamy, Gowthaman; Savard-Shaw, Julie; Murdock, Kelly; Habert, Andie
Subject: Re: Statement on RCMP request

Agree we should say officers but %

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From: Cohen, Alexander <Alexander.Cohen@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 6:52:42 PM
To: Jones, Mike <Mike.Jones@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Mendicino, Marco - Personal <Irrelevant@parl.gc.ca>
Cc: Kurusamy, Gowthaman <Gowthaman.Kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Savard-Shaw, Julie <Julie.Savard-Shaw@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Murdock, Kelly <Kelly.Murdock@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Habert, Andie <Andie.Habert@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Statement on RCMP request

Thanks Jones. Can we explicitly say additional officers? (I've added below) I worry about being too vague and looking shift.

From: Jones, Mike <Mike.Jones@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 6:50 PM
To: Cohen, Alexander <Alexander.Cohen@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Mendicino, Marco - Personal <Irrelevant@parl.gc.ca>
Cc: Kurusamy, Gowthaman <Gowthaman.Kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Savard-Shaw, Julie <Julie.Savard-Shaw@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Murdock, Kelly <Kelly.Murdock@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Habert, Andie <Andie.Habert@ps-sp.gc.ca>
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Edits below. Can't say we approved in full—they also requested 3 public order units. This will need to go to PMO:

Peaceful protests don't make people afraid to leave their homes. The blockades in downtown Ottawa have caused major disruption and danger to local families and businesses - to say nothing of the vandalism, harassment of residents, expressions of hate and incitement to violence. It is time for demonstrators to go home, and for Ottawans to get their city back. Federal officials across

government, including the RCMP, have been working closely with their municipal counterparts to manage the situation over the past week.

This afternoon, I had a productive conversation with Mayor Jim Watson. The City of Ottawa has submitted a request to the federal government for more support from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. I was happy to confirm that additional resources – including more officers – are ready to assist the Ottawa Police Service, who continue to be the police of jurisdiction. Ottawans deserve to feel safe in their community, and we'll continue to work closely with the City of Ottawa to be there for them.

From: Cohen, Alexander <Alexander.Cohen@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 6:35 PM
To: Mendicino, Marco - Personal <Irrelevant@parl.gc.ca>
Cc: Jones, Mike <Mike.Jones@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Kurusamy, Gowthaman <Gowthaman.Kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Savard-Shaw, Julie <Julie.Savard-Shaw@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Murdock, Kelly <Kelly.Murdock@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Habert, Andie <Andie.Habert@ps-sp.gc.ca>
Subject: Statement on RCMP request

As discussed, here's a draft statement on the city's request. (If we want to keep it simpler, we can just use the second paragraph.)

Hoping to get it out ASAP. Will loop in PMO, EP and DND once we have a final.

The blockades in downtown Ottawa have caused significant disruption and danger to local communities and businesses - to say nothing of the vandalism, blatant expressions of hate and incitement to violence. It is time for demonstrators to go home, and for Ottawans to get their city back. Federal officials at all levels, including the RCMP, have been working closely with their municipal counterparts to manage the situation over the past week.

This afternoon, I had a productive conversation with Mayor Jim Watson. The City of Ottawa has submitted a request to the federal government for more support from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, including additional personnel. We have approved the request in full, as in every case over the past week. The RCMP will be sending additional officers to support and assist the Ottawa Police Service, who continue to lead the management of the situation. Ottawans deserve to feel safe in their community, and the federal government will continue to be there for them.

Alexander Cohen

Director of Communications | Directeur des communications
Office of the Minister of Public Safety | Cabinet du ministre de la Sécurité publique
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